

## REMARKS

The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to eliminate multiple-dependent claims from subject Application to establish a filing fee. It is to be understood, nevertheless, that the claims originally set forth for subject Application prior to this Preliminary Amendment remain part of the original disclosure of the Application.

As amended by this Preliminary Amendment, there are a total of four (4) claims, two (2) of which are independent claims. Accordingly, a filing fee of \$370.00 appears to be required and our check to cover same is submitted herewith. If this is in error, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is authorized to debit or credit our Account No. 13-2000 as appropriate.

It is contemplated that a Supplemental Preliminary Amendment will be filed with the objective of placing the Specification, claims and Abstract in formats which are more customary for U.S. patent applications. Such Supplemental Preliminary Amendment should be filed in the near future upon receipt of information from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office concerning the instant Application, including the serial number assigned thereto.

Respectfully submitted,

MASON, MASON & ALBRIGHT

By   
Penrose Lucas Albright  
Registration No. 19,082

2306 South Eads Street  
P.O. Box 2246  
Arlington, VA 22202  
TEL (703) 979-3242  
FAX (703) 979-2526

Filed: February 12, 2002